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REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are all the claims presently pending in the application. Claims 1-4, 8-11, 14-16, and 18-20 are amended to more clearly define the invention. Claims 1 and 19-20 are independent.

These amendments are made only to more particularly point out the invention for the Examiner and not for narrowing the scope of the claims or for any reason related to a statutory requirement for patentability.

Applicants also note that, notwithstanding any claim amendments herein or later during prosecution, Applicants' intent is to encompass equivalents of all claim elements.

Entry of this §1.116 Amendment is proper. Since the Amendments above narrow the issues for appeal and since such features and their distinctions over the prior art of record were discussed earlier, such amendments do not raise a new issue requiring a further search and/or consideration by the Examiner. As such, entry of this Amendment is believed proper and Applicants earnestly solicit entry. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1, 3-5, 8, and 18-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by the Shima reference. Claims 2, 6-7, and 9-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Shima reference in view of the Kato et al. reference.

These rejections are respectfully traversed in the following discussion.

I. THE CLAIMED INVENTION

A first exemplary embodiment of the claimed invention, as defined by, for example, independent claim 1, is directed to print system that includes a computer, and a printer connected via a network to the computer. The printer includes an archive for storing

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documents prepared by the computer, and a page/document layout section for performing page/document layout processing for each stored document and for outputting document data undergoing page/document layout as an immediate print dot image format document.

Conventional printing systems do not include archives that store documents in an immediate print dot image format. Therefore, before a user is capable of receiving output from the printer, the printer must always perform any page/document layout functions in order to convert documents that are received in an editable format (e.g., in a page description language format) into an immediate print dot image format. This requirement increases the time and labor involved when a document needs to be reprinted.

In stark contrast, the present invention provides a printer with an archive management instruction section that instructs printing, storage, and printing and storage when a job ticket and the document name is used as an input parameter. In this manner, maximum efficient use of a print engine may always be guaranteed because, page document processing does not have to be performed upon documents which have already been stored in the archive in an immediate print dot image format.

II. THE PRIOR ART REJECTIONS

The Examiner alleges that the Shima reference teaches the claimed invention and that the Kato et al. reference would have been combined with the Shima reference to form the claimed invention. Applicants submit, however, that there are elements of the claimed invention which are neither taught nor suggested by the Shima reference.

The Shima reference uses a cache. The cache temporarily stores a date received from a Web server as a "resource." If a data is still stored in cache 25 when communicator 23

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requests a resource to the Web server, communicator 23 does not request data-transmitting, the stored data is used instead of the received data, the communicator 23 resent the data to analyzer 24. Since the network communication is shortened when the resource is obtained.

However, in the embodiment of the invention, the archive management instruction section 3170 instructs "printing," "storage," and "printing and storage" to archive management service section 2230 (as disclosed in the specification at page 13, line 15 - page 15, line 2, page 15, line 12 to page 16, line 9, and page 16, line 23 to page 17, line 18, etc.), when "a job ticket and the document name" is used as input parameter.

For example, whether or not the immediate-print-format document having the same job ticket as the input job ticket is determined, if the immediate-print-format document is stored, the document is printed. (Please see the specification at page 13, line 24 to page 14, line 13). If the immediate-print-format is not stored, a drawing section 2310 expands the document into dots and outputs dot image data so that a dot image data is output. (Please see the specification at page 14, line 14 to page 15, line 2). The page/document layout processing is performed with respect to the input job ticket, and then a data (in the immediate-print-format) is subjected to execute the printing.

As shown in the above-example, the operation is different from the cache operation that is disclosed by the Shima reference (general cache operation for the purpose of shortening the obtaining operation of the resource). The above-operation can make the expansion time of the printed data shorten, and the printing is immediately executed. In other words, when the cache is stored, analyzer 24 requires time for expansion of damage as disclosed by the Shima reference.

Further, a page/document layout section is not disclosed by the Shima reference.

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The Kato et al. reference does not remedy the deficiencies of the Shima reference.

Therefore, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejections of claims

1-20.

III. FORMAL MATTERS AND CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-20, all the claims presently pending in the Application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

Should the Examiner find the Application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

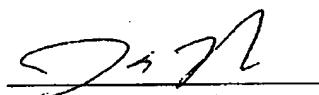
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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees or to credit any overpayment in fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Respectfully Submitted,

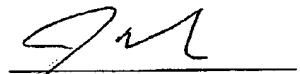
Date: 10/13/05


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CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that I am filing this Amendment After Final Rejection Under 37 CFR §1.116 by facsimile with the United States Patent and Trademark Office to Examiner Twyler M. Lamb, Group Art Unit 2622 at fax number (571) 273-8300 this 13th day of October, 2005.


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